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a whole, our judgment must be that it is not likely to be superseded in the future.

Of the two volumes under review there is little to be said by way of criticism. Dealing with the most difficult of all epochs of American history—a period in which almost every act has been the subject of bitter controversy—Mr. Rhodes has handled his theme with a good sense of proportion, judgment and fairness which it would be difficult to improve upon. His judgments upon the measures and the men of the time are usually frank and candid; indeed, are sometimes severe, but they are always supported by such an array of evidence as to compel conviction in the mind of the reader. The reconstruction policy he characterizes as “shortsighted, even from the partisan point of view,” and “repressive, uncivilized and unsuccessful” (VII:171). Its worst feature, he correctly says, was not the military government, but the rule of the negro, which was much worse than honest government by American soldiers would have been (VI:29). The north erred, he says, in assuming that because the south did not admit that she had been wrong and display at once a strong national feeling, she did not accept the accomplished facts. No large policy in our country has ever been so conspicuous a failure, is Mr. Rhodes’s judgment, as that of forcing negro suffrage upon the south (VII:168). This policy brought no real good to the negroes; few of them ever developed any political capacity, and none of them in comparison with their white associates attained the least distinction. In a word, the author concludes, the negro, politically, has been a failure. Against all the warnings of science and political experience he was started at the top, and, as is the fate of most of such unfortunates, he fell to the bottom (VII:170). Of those concerned in the *Credit Mobilier* affair, Colfax and Garfield swore falsely or had defective memories (VII:17), and the evidence against other members of Congress was very damaging. Grant was personally honest, but his shielding of Babcock and Belknap was reprehensible. During his administration the high water mark of corruption in national affairs was reached (VII:191). Some of Blaine’s transactions were disreputable, and in his defense of April 24, 1876, he told “six distinct falsehoods” (VII:204). The scandal and corruption which permeated almost every department of the national government was one of the legacies of reconstruction, but, as Mr. Rhodes observes, the American people remained sound at the core.

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Taylor, F. M. *Some Chapters on Money*. Pp. 316. Ann Arbor, Mich.: George Wahr, 1906.

Professor Taylor’s work was intended for exclusive use in college classes. It was printed, in a very limited edition of 300 copies, for the use of the students in the University of Michigan, and it must be judged very largely from this point of view.

We already have a number of books upon this subject which can, with

greater or less success, be used in college classes. But, as the reviewer sees it, there was room for just such a work as Professor Taylor's. He has made one of the best, if not the very best, book for such use. In the hands of the author such a work must be of very great importance and value to the college students. We further believe that in the hands of any successful teacher such a work will prove to be most advantageous to the college student. The style and method of treatment have much that will attract the student, and with a few changes they would prove equally attractive to the general reader. Since the book was written expressly for the college man, it was necessary that its method should be especially adapted to just such a class of readers.

Professor Taylor has given most excellent chapters on the following topics: The nature and functions of money; the typical monetary system; monetary principles—the natural laws of circulation; the geographical movement and distribution of money; the money standard—principles governing; the natural laws regulating changes in the value of money; the requisites of a good monetary standard; the proper regulation of the banknote circulation. So thoroughly and clearly has Professor Taylor given to the student the chief points and problems of each of these topics, that he must be a dull student who is not only enlightened but also stimulated. As the author says, his work does not cover the whole field of money in a perfectly complete way, but his book leaves little to be desired. In these statements and expositions the author has shown a strong grasp of a very difficult and important subject, and his treatment is clear, concrete, and forcible.

That all of his colleagues will quite agree with him in a number of his propositions we do not believe; and, of course, this is never to be expected. But whether or not we accept some of his positions, we must say that Professor Taylor has shown fairness and keen intelligence in his treatment of his subject. We would like to take issue with him on certain of his propositions, but space will not permit. And upon the whole we think most highly of the work.

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Wood, William. *The Fight for Canada.* Definitive edition. Pp. xx, 370. Price, \$2.50. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1906.

The author writes with clearness and force. His characterizations are often presented with succinct and epigrammatic phrase. Bute was "a flunkey turned master by the favour of the King's mother" (p. 20). Vaudreuil "was a liar, a backbiter and a pettifogger, utterly unfit for his great position . . . ; and the best excuse that can be made for him is that he was almost as great a fool as a knave" (p. 47). One defect in the author's treatment is that all men are either black or white; none are, to use Prof. Morse Stephens's illuminating phrase, pale gray. But, notwithstanding this temperamental defect, the characterizations of such men as Bigot, Wolfe and Montcalm are stimulating and vivid.